

## HOUSE BILL NO. 163.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
STATE OF TEXAS.  
Austin, April 6, 1903.

*To the Secretary of State:*

I disapprove and transmit herewith Senate [\*House] bill No. 163, entitled "An Act to require operators of cotton gins, their agents or lessees to report to the county judge of their respective counties the number of bales ginned and weighed by them every month as herein-after provided, and prescribing a penalty for failure to make said reports, and declaring an emergency."

My reasons for this action are as follows:

Section 35, Article 3, of our Constitution requires that the subject of a bill shall be expressed in its title, and it has been held by the courts that this provision is mandatory.

By its title this bill purports to be an act to require operators of cotton gins to report to the county judge of their respective counties the number of bales ginned, etc.

The bill itself provides that the county judge of each county within the State, shall tabulate the result made up from the various reports of ginners, under oath, and forward the same to the Commissioner of Insurance, Statistics and History, for which the county judge is to receive a fee. The bill also provides that a metal tag or mark shall be placed on each bale by the ginner, which shall be stamped with the name of the operator of the cotton gin, with the date on which such bale was ginned.

The bill further provides that the Commissioner of Insurance, Statistics and History, not later than the tenth day of each month, shall prepare, tabulate and make up a report from the reports of the various county judges, and shall give out such tabulated reports to the public press.

Inasmuch as the title of the bill fails to embrace any of the subjects indicated, it is manifest that the proposed legislation has not been enacted in such manner as would make it valid.

S. W. T. LANHAM,  
Governor.

[\*NOTE.—This should have read "House bill No. 163," and the word "House" is inserted above by the Journal Clerk. The error was made in enrolling the bill, as "Substitute Senate for House bill No. 163," when the Journal, March 31st, pages 1147-9, shows that the Senate amendments were read, and concurred in, and not that the House passed a Senate Substitute.

JOURNAL CLERK.]